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A Sermon in Rhyme.

If you have a friend worth loving. Love him. Yes, and let him know That you love him, o'er life's evening Tinge his brow with sunset glow. Why should good words ne'er be said Of a friend-till he is dead?

If you hear a song that thrills you, Sung by any child of song, Praise it. Do not let the singer Wait deserved praises long. Why should one who thrills your heart,

Lack the Joy you may impart? If you hear a prayer that moves you By its humble, pleading tone, Join it. Do not let the seeker

Bow before his God alone, Why should not your brother share The strength of "two or three" in prayer?

If you see the hot tears falling From a brother's eyes, Share them. And, by sharing, Own your kinship with the skies. Why should anyone be glad, When a brother's heart is sad?

If a silver laugh is rippling Through the sunshine on his face, Share it. "Tis the wise man's saying-For both grief and joy a place. There's health and goodness in the mirth In which an honest laugh has birth.

If your work is made more easy By a friendly helping hand, Say so. Speak out brave and truly; Ere the darkness veils the land. Should a brother workman dear Falter for a word of cheer?

Scatter thus your seeds of kindness, All enriching as you go; Leave them. Trust the Harvest Giver, He will make each seed to grow; So, until its happy end,

Your life shall never lack a friend, -Selected.

A Ruse for a Dinner.

The following characteristic anecdote of Theodore Hook is given in Barham's life of that extraordinary man. Of the hoax so commonly told and so generally believed as taking place at the Spanish Embassador's, at Woolwich, on the Thames, Mr. Barham has given a truer and more authentic account. One of the streets near Soho Square, either Dean street or Fifth street, was the real scene of action. Hook was lounging up one of those streets in company with Terry, the actor, when they saw through the kitchen window preparations for a

handsome dinner. "What a feast!" said Terry. "Jolly dogs! I should like to make one of

"T'll take any bet," returned Hook, "that I do. Call for me here at 10 o'clock, and you'll find that I shall be able to give a tolerable account of the worthy gentleman's champagne and

So saying, he marched up the steps, gave an authoritative rap with the burnished knocker, and was quickly lost to the sight of his astonished companions. As a matter of course he was immediately ushered by the servant, as an unexpected guest, into the drawing room, where a large party had already assembled. The apartment being well nightfull no retirement. full, no notice was at first taken of his intrusion, and half a dozen people were laughing at his bon mots before the host discovered the mistake. Affecting not to observe the visible embarrassment of the latter, and ingeniously avoiding any opportunity for explanation, Hook rattled till he had attracted the greater part of the company in a circle near him, and some considerable time clapsed ere the old gentleman was able to catch the attention of the agreeable stran-

ger.
"I beg your pardon, sir," he said, contriving at last to get in a word; "but your name, sir—I did not quite catch it—servants are so abominably incorrect, and I am really a little at loss—"
"Don't apologize, I beg," graciously replied Theodore. "Smith—my name

is Smith—and, as you justly observe, servants are always making some stupid blunder or another, I remember a remarkable instance," etc. "But really, my dear sir," continued

the host at the termination of the story illustrative of stupidity in servants, "I think the mistake on the present occa-sion does not originate in the source you allude to: I certainly did not expect the pleasure of Mr. Smith's company at dinner to-day.'

"No, I dare say not; you said four in your note, I know, and it is now, I see a quarter past 5—you are a little fast, by the way—but the fact is I have been detained in the city. detained in the city, and I was about to explain when-

'Pray," exclaimed the other, as soon as he could stay the volubility of his quest, "whom, may I ask, do you sup-

pose you are addressing?"
"Whom? Why, Mr. Thompson, of course—old friend of my father; I have not the pleasure, indeed, of being personally known to you, but having reecived your kind invitation on my arrival from Liverpool - Fifth street, 4 o'clock, family party-come in bootsyou see I have taken you at your word. I am only afraid I have kept you wait-

No, no, not at all. But permit me to observe, my dear sir, my name is not exactly Thompson—it is Jones, and—"
"Jones!" repeated the soi disant
Smith, in admirably assumed consternation. "Jones! Why surely I can not have yes I must have—yes, I must—good gracious, I see it all. My dear sir, what an unfortunate blunder! Wrong house! What must you think of such an intrusion? I am really at a loss for words to apologize. You will permit me to retire at

present, and to-morrow-"Pray don't think of retiring," ex-claimed the hospitable old gentleman; your friend's table must have been cleared long ago, if, as you say, 4 was the hour named, and I am only too happy to be able to offer you a seat at

Hook, of course, could not think of any such thing-could not think of trespassing upon the kindness of a perfect stranger; if too late for Thompson, there were plenty of chop-houses at hand. The unfortunate part of the business was, he had made an appointment with a gentleman to call for him at 10 o'clock. The good-natured Jones, however, positively refused to allow so entertaining a visitor to withdraw dinnerless; Mrs. Jones joined in the solicitation; the Misses Jones smiled bewitchingly;

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and at last Mr. Smith, who soon recovered from his confusion, was prevailed upon to offer his arm to one of the ladies, and take his place at the well fur-nished board. In all probability the family of Jones never passed such an evening before. Hook naturally exerted himself to the utmost to keep the party in a roar of laughter, and make good a first impression. The mirth grew fast and furious, when by way of a coup de grace, he seated himself at the piano forte and struck off into one of those extemporaneous effusions which had filled better judges than the Joneses with astonishment. Ten o'clock struck, and on Mr. Terry being announced, his triumphant friend wound up the performance with the explanatory stanza-

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